

Senior Fall Timeline

Welcome to “College Prep News” – helpful tips from EducationQuest Foundation on how to plan -- and pay for college.

Hi! This is Delmer from EducationQuest. If you're an upcoming high school senior...today's message is for you!

You see, I've worked with a lot of seniors over the years who waited way too long to plan for college – and they ended up missing some important deadlines. I don't want that to happen to you! So, I prepared a list of seven things you can do this fall to stay on the path to college.

Are you ready?

1. Update your *Activities Resume* at **EducationQuest.org**. Then, when it's time to apply for scholarships and college admission, you'll have a list of your extracurricular activities, honors and part-time jobs.
2. Narrow your college choices by visiting your top 3 - 4 colleges, attending a college fair, and talking to college representatives who visit your school. Focus on schools that match your career interests.

Tools at **EducationQuest.org** will also help you narrow your college choices. They include **College Profiles** and the **Index of Majors**.

3. Plan to retake the ACT and/or SAT this fall. Colleges will use your highest score for admission and scholarship decisions, but the December test is typically the last one they'll consider. For registration and test dates, visit **collegeboard.com** and **actstudent.org**.
4. Look for scholarships. A good place to start is *ScholarshipQuest* at **EducationQuest.org**. It has over 2,000 state and local scholarships which are usually easier to earn than large national awards.
5. Many scholarships and some colleges ask for letters of recommendation, so think about teachers, coaches, family friends or supervisors who could write a letter for you. Be sure to give them plenty of notice along with a specific deadline.

6. Be prepared to apply to your top 3 or 4 colleges by late fall. Check the college Web sites for admission criteria – or contact the admissions office.

7. Finally ... be sure to attend the Financial Aid Program at your school or in your community to learn about the financial aid process and ways to pay for college. See the Upcoming Events section at **EducationQuest.org** to find the program in your area.

This sounds like a lot of things to do this fall, but it won't be so bad if you ask for help from a parent or another adult. EducationQuest is here to help, too!

That concludes this segment of *College Prep News*. Thanks for listening!

For free help with college planning, visit EducationQuest.org for information and resources - and to find the EducationQuest location nearest you.

EducationQuest Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska.